



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY

John W. Betkoski III, Acting Chairman
Michael A. Caron, Acting Vice Chairman

STATE OF CONNECTICUT PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY

Public Hearing – February 26, 2019
Energy and Technology Committee

Testimony submitted by **John Betkoski, Acting Chair, Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA)** and Michael Caron, Acting Vice-Chair PURA

Raised Senate Bill 875 – An Act Expanding Connecticut's Offshore Wind Energy Portfolio

PURA welcomes the opportunity to submit testimony is **support** of Governor Lamont's Offshore Wind Expansion legislation. PURA supports this proposal as a tool to cost-effectively meet the state's energy and environmental goals, including the states renewable portfolio standard, and the interim and long-range targets required under the global warming solutions act.

PURA believes that that Section 1 of the proposal will provide the Commissioner of DEEP the flexibility to structure solicitations in a manner that could provide maximum value to ratepayers for clean energy procurements.

Additionally, PURA notes that Section 1(d) provides PURA with 120 days to review agreements and articulates a well-defined standard of review and provides a provision for cost-recovery by the electric distribution companies. At least 120 days in Section 1(d) is necessary to ensure that PURA has adequate time to evaluate whether submissions satisfy the requisite standard of review, particularly where PURA's review involves careful evaluation of technical, financial, and managerial capabilities of project owners. Due to the size and scale of the proposed procurements, and the importance of PURA's review in protecting ratepayer interests, PURA urges the Committee to ensure that any offshore wind procurements provide time standards for PURA review that are at least comparable to those proposed in Section 1(d) of the Senate Bill 875.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this proposal. If you should require any additional information, please contact Nick Neeley at 860-827-2625 or Nicholas.Neeley@ct.gov.